



COUNCILMEMBER DONNA FRYE

City of San Diego
Sixth District

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 12, 2004
TO: Michael Uberuaga, City Manager
FROM: Councilmember Donna Frye
SUBJECT: Beach Sand

Donna Frye

There have been citizen allegations made recently and in the past that sand has been removed from our city beaches and sold to private businesses, rather than being returned to the beaches. It is alleged that the sand is removed during the kelp removal operations, taken by truck to Fiesta Island and then sold. One of the allegations includes sand being sold to a company who contracts with the city to make fire rings.

It has been my understanding from the Park and Recreation Department that sand removed from the beaches is taken by truck to Fiesta Island, placed in piles and then returned to the same beach from which it was removed.

Please investigate this and provide information on the kelp removal process that explains exactly what happens to the sand after it is brought to Fiesta Island. If it is returned to the beaches that it was taken from please include the dates and locations of the specific beaches. If any of this sand has been sold please include the dates of the transactions and the names of these companies.

DF/mm

cc: Ellen Oppenheim, Director, Park and Recreation